

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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Registration Area J Red Sea Cucumber and Green Sea Urchin **Guideline Harvest Levels for the 2013/14 Season** **EO # 4-S-16-13**

Red Sea Cucumber: The 2013/14 Registration Area J red sea cucumber season opens by regulation on October 1, 2013. Weekly fishing periods are opened by emergency order under provisions of a commissioner's permit issued by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G). The initial 48-hour red sea cucumber fishing period will occur from 12:01 a.m. Tuesday, October 1, 2013 to 11:59 p.m. Wednesday, October 2, 2013. Subsequent fishing periods will be announced after each weekly fishing period by news release.

Each diver is required to obtain a current Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) sea cucumber interim-use permit card and an ADF&G commissioner's permit registration prior to any commercial diving. All divers are required to submit completed logbooks to ADF&G after each fishing period. Registration forms and logbooks are available from ADF&G offices in Kodiak and Dutch Harbor.

Green Sea Urchin: The Registration Area J green sea urchin fishery opens by regulation on October 1, 2013 under provisions of a commissioner's permit. Each diver is required to obtain a CFEC sea urchin interim-use permit card and commissioner's permit registration from ADF&G prior to any commercial diving. Completed logbooks must be submitted to ADF&G by each diver following delivery. Additional requirements, including individual fishing periods and delivery notifications may be required depending on effort.

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Red sea cucumber guideline harvest levels (GHLs) for the Kodiak, Chignik, and Alaska Peninsula areas are based on historical harvest and fishery performance data. Areas lacking historical harvest data will open with exploratory GHLs of 5,000 pounds each. ADF&G will assess distribution of effort and fishery performance throughout the 2013/14 season. Poor fishery performance may result in section closures prior to achieving the full GHL. Red sea cucumber GHLs are expressed as the weight of eviscerated product.

Green sea urchin GHLs are based on historical harvest data. Areas lacking historical harvest data will open with exploratory GHLs of 5,000 pounds each. Green sea urchin GHLs are expressed as whole animal weight.

Area	Sea Cucumber GHL (eviscerated pounds)	Sea Urchin GHL (whole pounds)
Kodiak		
Northeast Section	5,000	10,000
Eastside Section	40,000	10,000
Southeast Section	30,000	10,000
Southwest Section	20,000	10,000
Westside Section	30,000	10,000
North Mainland Section	5,000	5,000
South Mainland Section	5,000	5,000
Semidi Island Section	5,000	5,000
Total Kodiak	140,000	65,000
Chignik	15,000	5,000
Alaska Peninsula	10,000	5,000
Aleutian Islands	5,000	5,000
Bering Sea	5,000	5,000

For additional information contact ADF&G in Kodiak at (907) 486-1840.